

March 31, 2004

**EAR, NOSE  
& THROAT  
ASSOCIATES**  
OF SPRINGFIELD, INC.

Lester M. Crawford, D.V.M., Ph.D.  
Deputy Commissioner  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane (HF-1/14-71/PKLN)  
Rockville, MD 20857

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Dear Deputy Commissioner Crawford,

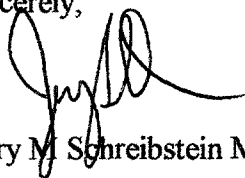
I urge you to develop a clear, consistent policy regarding the recall of foods with undeclared allergens, a policy that protects the millions of Americans who have food allergies.

I am an ear, nose and throat surgeon who has many patients with food allergies. I am also the father of a 4-year-old boy named Andrew who has life-threatening allergies to egg and peanuts. Recently the 3-year-old son of a friend ingested undeclared egg product and had a life-threatening allergic reaction requiring the administration of epinephrine and a hospital visit. Fortunately, Matthew is the son a pediatrician mother and vascular surgeon father. If not for their vigilance he may have suffered irreparable harm.

Fortunately, the Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network assisted Matthew's mother in testing the offending candy. Ultimately, the product was recalled with much difficulty.

It is crucial to my family and my patients that we have ingredient labels that are accurate, reliable, and trustworthy. Equally as crucial, however, is to have FDA, the federal body in charge of food safety, to take charge and recall food items with undeclared allergens. The FDA, and our country, must be the leaders in food safety and proper labeling. I hope my son Andrew does not become victim to improper labeling.

Sincerely,



Jerry M. Schreibstein MD, FACS

cc. Congressman Richard Neal  
Senator John Kerry  
Senator Edward Kennedy  
Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network

AN AFFILIATE OF  
EAR, NOSE & THROAT SURGEONS OF  
WESTERN NEW ENGLAND, LLC

CARL E. REINER, M.D.

BARRY R. JACOBS, M.D., F.A.C.S.

JERRY M. SCHREIBSTEIN, M.D., F.A.C.S.

THEODORE P. MASON, M.D.

ISAC L. BLOCH, M.D.

PRACTICE LIMITED TO  
EAR, NOSE AND THROAT  
HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

BAYSTATE MEDICAL CENTER  
OFFICE BUILDING  
2 Medical Center Drive  
Suite 110  
Springfield, MA 01107  
413-732-7426  
Fax 413-734-2371

PHYSICIANS OFFICE CENTER  
MERCY HOSPITAL  
299 Carew Street  
Suite 210  
Springfield, MA 01104  
413-731-0869  
Fax 413-734-2271

MARY LANE HOSPITAL  
85 South Street  
Ware, MA 01082  
413-967-2249

WING MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
& MEDICAL CENTERS  
40 Wright Street  
Palmer, MA 01069  
413-284-5400

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